

RAILROAD COMMITTEE MEETS.

Meeting of the Board Appointed by Chairman Cowling with Major Gordon Yesterday.

After several meetings of the committee which was appointed by Chairman Cowling as a result of the railroad meeting which was held Thursday afternoon of last week the committee met yesterday afternoon and submitted to Major E. C. Gordon a counter proposition.

There were quite a number of people present and in the absence of Chairman Cowling George A. Brandon called the meeting to order. L. G. Connor was appointed temporary chairman. Judge J. C. Hunt read the proposition as propounded by the committee which we give in full below:

MAJOR E. C. GORDON: We, the committee appointed at a meeting of the citizens of Canyon City, Texas, for the purpose of investigating your proposition for the building of a railroad from Canyon City, Texas, in a southeasterly direction to a connection with some trunk line, beg leave to report:

That on account of the peculiar condition and status of the landed possessions along said proposed route in that at least two-thirds of which is owned by non-residents and the further fact that almost every other section along said route has never been patented and that money is still due the state and that many of the patented sections have already a first mortgage upon them—it will be impossible to accept your proposition but in lieu thereof make you the following proposition:

That we will give outright \$50,000.00 in cash, thirty-five acres of land for depot, switches, round house and shops, and also 200 alternate lots to be laid off in an addition to Canyon City adjoining the depot or roundhouse. This proposition embraces on your part a connection of Canyon City with some trunk line of railway other than the Santa Fe, and the locating of the general offices, round house and shops of said road at Canyon City for a period of not less than twenty years. Respectfully submitted,

L. C. CONNOR,
Chairman Committee.

Canyon City, Texas, Sept. 9, 1908.

Major Gordon took the floor and stated that he could not accept the proposition as submitted by the committee and that the proposition which he submitted at the last meeting was the very best that he had ever submitted to any people, setting forth the plans again according to the former proposition, showing that if the subscribers so desired that they might be able to get first mortgage bonds on the road for all amounts they paid in cash.

Several good speeches were made by our citizens relative to both propositions which tended to bring about a better understanding on both sides, of the general conditions. A strong sentiment was had towards accepting the proposition as submitted by Major Gordon, in so far as the amount to be subscribed was concerned, the minor details to be determined upon when it was found that the county could raise the subscription. A motion was made and carried that the committee of ten appointed by the chairman together with the chairman and secretary be appointed as a committee on permanent organization and with power to appoint additional persons to assist, and that the committee have authority to call meetings of the citizens as they may think proper and that we have a mass meeting next Tuesday night.

The meeting was not in any sense a "boom" meeting but merely to discuss the propositions as submitted and to take such steps towards their fulfillment as was thought proper to take.

Our editorial columns are closed for this issue, but the editor desires to say that every resident or land owner in the county should be at the meeting next Tuesday night, September 15, at the court house, and find out what is going on and how easy it will be for us to take steps to become a railroad center.

Come out, sure. Leave business for a few moments, so that you may have greater business in the future. Every man, woman and child in the county should be sufficiently interested to attend the meeting.

THE GIANT ANT EATER.

A Most Peculiar Creature That is Found in Venezuela.

The giant ant eater of Venezuela is one of the most outlandish looking creatures in all the domain of nature. It is an animal about two and a half feet high. The body and tail taken together measure about seven feet in length. The tail is usually carried curved over the back, draping and shading the body. In appearance the bushy tail may be likened to a clump of ornamental grass. The head is very small, but it is prolonged into a snout a foot or more in length. The mouth is at the extremity of this snout.

The ant eaters belong to that group of the animal kingdom known as the edentates, a class usually toothless. If they have any teeth at all, they are very few in number, of a rudimentary or simple form, in the back of the head. They resemble in this respect birds, and they furthermore bear a resemblance to the bird creation in the possession of muscular, gizzard-like stomachs. One feature of the edentates is that they all have some peculiarity in the covering of the body. The armadillo, for instance, has a shell of armor, the pangolin a series of shingle-like scales, the aard vark, native to the Transvaal, a piglike skin, scantily covered with hair, and, lastly, the ant eater, with a bushy tail and the body plentifully covered with hair.

The ant eater is in many ways unlike other animals. The most striking dissimilarity is in its mouth, which does not open and shut with an up and down movement of the lower jaw, as that of all other quadrupeds, but it is a mere aperture, opening only enough to admit of the passage of the foot long, whip-like tongue.

In captivity the ant eater is fed on bread and milk. In its native haunts, the forests of South America, it feeds exclusively on termites, or, as they are commonly called, white ants. These termites abound in the wilds of tropical America, and the ant eater tears open with its sharp fore claws their conical mud nests and with its slender tongue licks up the inmates out of every nook and crevice.

The ant eater has a queer way of walking. It is the manner in which it uses its fore limbs. The claws of its fore limbs are so constructed that they are incapable of sustaining the weight of the body, but are turned backward, compelling the animal to stand and walk on the outer surface of the wrists. When it ambles around, awkwardly, as it appears, it seems to be using two amputated fore limbs.

Just Received—Shipment of fruit jar caps and rubbers.

THOMPSON HARDWARE CO.

OUR COUNTY PROSPERITY.

Some of the Reasons Why Our Section is Forging to the Front so Rapidly and is Becoming the Greatest Farming District of the West.

Those of our readers who have been reading closely the columns of this paper have noticed that a great many people of Randall county have been recently investing in our farm lands for homes, thereby expressing in a material way their confidence in our lands as a producing proposition. Their confidence is not misplaced.

So that our people may know what the farmers from the northern and eastern states have done we have secured letters from some of these settlers and will publish them from time to time, in order to give an idea of what they think of the country, and what they are able to do here.

DEAR SIR: In connection with my residence in the Panhandle of Texas, I would like to give the following:

Seven years ago last January I moved from northern Missouri to Randall county, Texas, which is known as the central Panhandle, and one of the best counties of the Plains, for it is the only one in the Panhandle having two streams of running water through it, with an abundance of fish in them.

Subsequently I have made seven crops here, having never made a failure in the seven years. I have raised corn, kafir corn, maize, wheat, oats, barley, sorghum and millet, and they have all yielded bountifully under proper cultivation, my wheat having yielded as high as thirty-one bushels per acre, and oats as high as fifty-seven bushels per acre.

I find that the soil responds to proper cultivation, more readily than any country I ever farmed in; in fact it is the best country I ever lived in. Taking into consideration the fertility of the soil, the inexhaustible supply of pure water at no great depth, the good roads, the pleasant climate,

neither too hot in summer nor too cold in winter, with cool, pleasant nights in summer to sleep, undisturbed by heat or mosquitoes, the good health enjoyed by all the people, and the good moral, christian, law-abiding citizens who have pleasant homes in the Panhandle of Texas, making it an ideal home in which to live, and I believe it is destined in the near future to become one of the best wheat and oats producing countries in the wheat belt of the United States, and one where the wheat raised will grade No. 1 in quality.

As to the rainfall on the Plains, something the people of the north have an erroneous idea of, and many of them think it is a dry, barren desert, which is a grave mistake, as there has been plenty of rainfall when needed ever since I have been here. At the time of writing we have had a three and one half inch rain, raining continuously for the last thirty-six hours. One beauty of it is that the land is so level here that if a man has a deed for 160 acres here he will always own it unless he sells it, for after a big rain the best part of the soil is not making its way toward the Gulf of Mexico and leaving twenty acres of ditches in your field for you to pay taxes on and can't be utilized.

Now some people may say or think that I have land to sell or an ax to grind—far from it. Although I own two sections of as fine land as was ever in the country, I have none to sell at the present, for I claim that land on which we can raise twenty to thirty bushels of wheat to the acre and other crops in proportion, if it is worth one dollar it is worth fifty dollars per acre.

These are my honest convictions about the Panhandle of Texas. Yours very truly,

THEODORE COCHELL.

CITY SCHOOLS OPEN.

Work in the Canyon City Public School Begins on Wednesday.

The public schools of this city did not begin last Monday as had been arranged, on account of the needed changes and repairs which were being made in the building and therefore active school work did not begin until Wednesday.

When the time came to begin the largest number of pupils that had ever attended the opening of the school was present. All preliminary arrangements having been made, it took the faculty but a short time to classify all the pupils and active recitation work was begun in the afternoon.

Some confusion has been had on account of the publishers not being able to furnish all of the new books which had been adopted by the state but the teachers have obviated that trouble by using the old books until the new ones arrive.

The News reporter was not able to give the complete total of the number of pupils enrolled but a member of the school board stated that he thought the enrollment this week would be as large as the total enrollment of last year.

The faculty consists of Miss Neal, first grade, Miss Tuttle, second and third grades, Miss Gilliam, fourth grade, Miss Kirk, fifth grade, Miss Bryson, sixth grade, Prof. Coss, seventh grade, Prof. Craig, eighth and ninth grades and principal of High School, and Prof. Redus, tenth grade and superintendent.

PROPOSED MAIL ROUTE.

Efforts Being Made to Establish Automobile Mail Route From this City to Wayside.

Efforts are now being made and arrangements to that effect are under way, for the establishment of an automobile route with daily service, from Canyon City to Wayside, in Armstrong county, going by the way of Ceta.

The mail at present is sent to these two postoffices from Happy and the new arrangement, if consummated, would give these people in that part of the country much better mail service as well as have adequate means of connections with the main line of railroad at this place. A meeting of the people at Wayside has been held and quite a number have agreed to take stock in the enterprise, enough, in fact, to guarantee the establishment of the line if the postal authorities will consent to the change of mail route.

Ever Ready electric batteries now in stock.

THOMPSON HARDWARE CO.

W. D. McGehee of Wayside, was in the city this week and left at our office some fine samples of peaches grown on his farm in that community. Mr. McGehee stated to The News reporter that he and Oscar Thomas had gathered from one of his peach trees ten dollars worth of peaches this year, the tree being about six years old. He also stated that all of his different varieties of fruit had done well this year and all that any orchard needed in this country was a little attention and that if this attention was given we could always have plenty of fruit.

Enlarging Your Business



for charity, or do you advertise for direct results?

Did you ever stop to think how your advertising can be made a source of profit to you, and how its value can be measured in dollars and cents. If you have not, you are throwing money away.

Advertising is a modern business necessity, but must be conducted on business principles. If you are not satisfied with your advertising you should set aside a certain amount of money to be spent

annually, and then carefully note the effect it has in increasing your volume of business; whether a 10, 20 or 30 per cent increase. If you watch this gain from year to year you will become intensely interested in your advertising, and how you can make it enlarge your business.

If you try this method we believe you will not want to let a single issue of this paper go to press without something from your store.

We will be pleased to have you call on us, and we will take pleasure in explaining our annual contract for so many inches, and how it can be used in whatever amount that seems necessary to you.

If you can sell goods over the counter we can also show you why this paper will best serve your interests when you want to reach the people of this community.